

CITY OF ROCHESTER.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1942.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health

J. O. Murray, M.D., D.P.H..

Assistant Medical Officer

+W. Hall, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H..

P. R. Lowns, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
(Temporary) Resigned 14.11.42 owing
to 'call up'.

Ruth P. Mathers, M.B. B.S., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P.
(Temporary) Appointed 9.11.42.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

E.W. Barton, C.R.S.I., C.M.I..

Sanitary Inspectors.

A.H.W.Chapman, C.S.I.E.B., C.M.I..

+R.T. Howell, C.S.I.E.B., C.M.I..

+A.H.B.Taylor, C.S.I.E.B.

J. I. Lonnan (Temporary)
Resigned March 1942.

Veterinary Inspector
(Part-time).

Elmer Ebbets, M.R.C.V.S..

Port Health Inspector

C.H.N.Evans, C.R.S.I., C.M.I., A.I.N.A..

Health Visitors.

Helena G.Tod, C.M.B., C.R.S.I..

Catherine J.Geeleher, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
C.R.S.I..

Clerks.

Winifred Jones.

Joan Smith.

++Eveline Hookins.

Olive Raine (Temporary)
Appointed March 1942.
Resigned November 1942.

+ On active service.

++ Called up for service with A.F.S.

Public Health Department,
Saye House,
Castle Hill,
Rochester.
March 1944.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the City of Rochester

Your Worship and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report on the various factors affecting the health of the community during 1942. I regret that through necessity, it is presented so late. The report is an abbreviated one, but the details and figures on which a more comprehensive report might be based, are available when required.

There is only one major adverse circumstance to which I need draw your attention. It is the increase in Infantile Mortality, i.e. the deaths of children under one year of age.

Infantile Mortality.

In 1942, sixty four out of every thousand babies born failed to survive. In the last 10 years, only once has there been a correspondingly high figure, and that was in 1935 when the figure was sixty five deaths per thousand births. In 1940, a remarkably low infantile mortality was recorded, viz. twenty nine per thousand births. I would like to see this maintained and I think in time it can be. Usually, Rochester infantile mortality compares favourably with the County as a whole, and on account of the high rate in 1942, I wish to draw your attention to certain relative facts and to make certain recommendations:

It is found that the majority of infant deaths occur in the first month after birth (neo natal deaths). It is also known that these deaths in the first month of life are largely due to causes operative before birth, in other words, due to ante-natal conditions in their widest concept. In Rochester during 1942, there was an exceptionally large number of these early infant deaths.

Another factor responsible for the increase in infant deaths in 1942 was the greater ravages of infections, chiefly of the lungs and bowel.

One can say, therefore, that the high rate was mainly the result of (1) ante-natal conditions, and (2) infections.

The term 'ante-natal conditions' includes not only the nursing and medical care available during pregnancy, but the nutrition, economic and social conditions, housing and overcrowding of the expectant mothers.

In this statement on infantile mortality, no mention has been made of still births which are defined as births after the twenty eighth week of pregnancy in which there is no sign of breathing or any other form of life after complete birth.

For practical considerations a still birth may be assumed to be in the same category as a neo-natal death (i.e. within one month after birth), as the causes in both are largely due to ante-natal factors. The following figures are illuminating.

In Rochester, in the past six years, there have been 148 still births, 108 neo-natal deaths (within one month of birth) and 69 deaths in the succeeding 11 months (1 to 12 months). This indicates that most of the non-survivors

died largely from factors operative before or at birth. Most of the others were the victims of infections.

Whilst it is not possible at the moment to cope effectively with all the adverse factors affecting the problem of infantile mortality (e.g. housing) much can be done now.

I would recommend:-

1. An extension in clinic, medical and nursing facilities for ante-natal care, with more hospital beds for complicated pregnancy, more maternity beds for normal and abnormal cases, together with more hospital provision for premature and sick babies.
2. The further education of the expectant mothers on their food and general preparation for maternity, through the Health Visitors and all other available means. This will require more Health Visitors than at present. There is no doubt that there is considerable ignorance in the simple rules of hygiene and dietetics, and enlightenment of the general public on these subjects is essential.
3. The provision of nursery accommodation so that the expectant mother with young children may have reasonable periods of rest.
4. Provision of a domiciliary nursing service for infectious diseases with two main objects:-
 - (a) Adequate nursing care, and
 - (b) As a method of home education in domestic hygiene and the consequences of its absence.I consider the provision of such a service a primary measure to combat the dangers of infection in young children, as it is usually on account of poor hygiene, combined with faulty feeding, that infants contract infection.
5. Extension of Home Helps services during pregnancy and confinement.

Births.

The birth rate for the past 10 years is shown on page 7. The increase in the birth rate, which has been evident since 1938, is more marked in 1942.

Attendances at Milk Distribution and Advice Centres.

There has been an increase in attendances at these Centres (9372 attendances as compared with 8033 in 1941). This increase occurred entirely at the Wallace Road and Temple Centres which were opened in order to avoid long journeys by the mothers and children. The inference is that if a Centre is conveniently situated, use will be made of it, distance from the home being a matter of some importance to the working mother. It is a point worth remembering in any post-war extension of clinic services.

Attendances at Centres for the past 8 years.

<u>1935.</u>	<u>1936.</u>	<u>1937.</u>	<u>1938.</u>	<u>1939.</u>	<u>1940.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1942.</u>
3811	4074	4502	5930	4397	3395	8033	9372.

War-time Nurseries.

Strood Nursery opened as an experimental nursery for ten children in March 1941, and was extended, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, to take forty children, opening on April 21st, 1942.

A request to establish another Nursery on the Rochester side of the river also received approval, and Fairmount Nursery 59, St. Margaret's Street, was opened on March 24th, 1942, with accommodation for thirty children.

It was also decided to accommodate children over-night, and in June, provision was made for a maximum of ten children at Strood Nursery.

Later in the year the demand for admissions increased and proposals were made to increase the accommodation at Strood Nursery to seventy places, and at Fairmount Nursery to eighty places.

Both Nurseries became affiliated to the National Society Children's Nurseries, and were approved for the training of students desirous of taking a diploma.

One of the troubles in administering the Nurseries has been found in maintaining the attendances of children at an economic level. Absence is often caused by infectious or other illness and other children, through illness of the mother or domestic circumstances, are unable to attend regularly.

The Nurseries do not run to capacity, which is fortunate in some respects, but their economic position would be much sounder if they could operate with a reasonably large and regular daily admission.

As from the end of April 1942, a total of 70 places was available in the two Nurseries. The numbers of children on the registers and the average daily admissions at both Nurseries each month were as follows:-

	<u>May.</u>	<u>June.</u>	<u>July.</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
No. of children on Registers.	51	69	75	85	82	85	80	
Average daily attendances.	35	38	43	54	53	57	52	

In spite of all measures taken to avoid its introduction, infection in one form or another is almost a constant occurrence.

In most infectious diseases the younger the child, the greater is the risk to life and damage in health, and for this reason the event of infection in Nursery children is of greater significance than it would be in older children.

Nevertheless under Nursery conditions, the health of the children improves. Good Hygiene, good and regular feeding, regulated rest periods and outdoor life, whenever possible, are the rules in the Nurseries, and have undoubtedly beneficial effects.

Distribution of Milk.

About 1,000,000 more pints of milk were issued under the National Scheme. The chief increase was in the issue at 2d. per pint and there was a slight decrease in the issue free of cost.

Infectious Diseases.

Diphtheria.

There was a considerable increase in the number of children immunised, viz. 1023 in 1942, as against 728 in 1941 and 474 in 1938, but in spite of the improvement, this form of protection against a very fatal infectious disease must become more popular if epidemics are to be prevented.

There were six cases and no deaths in 1942.

Measles was prevalent, the epidemic reaching its peak in June. There were 283 notified cases with no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

Most of the infections occurred in the first quarter of the year, at the end of which there was an abrupt decline. There were 150 cases with two deaths.

Pneumonia caused 23 deaths.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.

There were 2 fatal cases among 5 notified cases.

Infective Jaundice.

This disease became evident in the district in November and December, but as it is not a notifiable disease the number of cases is not known.

Scabies.

Two centres for treatment were available, one at Strood Institution and the other at St. William's Hospital. Both centres are in the cleansing section of 1st Aid Posts. 273 patients were treated.

Treatment of Infectious Diseases.

(a) Infectious Diseases other than Typhus and Smallpox.

Plans were made by the Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the Kent County Council, to effect further co-ordination in the hospital services for infectious diseases. Broadly speaking, the scheme arranges for the admission of cases from any district to any Infectious Diseases Hospital in the County area should the necessity arise. Such admissions will be made through the County Medical Officer of Health. The scheme does not alter, but simply extends, the existing arrangements made between Rochester and adjoining Infectious Diseases Hospitals Authorities.

(b) Hospital provision for Smallpox.

In pre-war years the London County Council and the Port of London Authority agreed to accept cases to their respective hospitals, provided there was available accommodation after meeting their own needs.

The St. William's Joint Hospital Board have also available a temporary building to which cases may be admitted.

These provisions were considered to be ineffective under war-time conditions, and as similar difficulties presented themselves throughout the County area, the County Council, at the request of the Ministry of Health, held a Conference with all Local Authorities concerned, at which a joint scheme was proposed, viz. to provide the necessary accommodation at Dislingbury and the West Kent Hospital. These proposals were under consideration at the end of the year.

(c) Hospital provision for Typhus Fever.

This matter also received consideration during 1942. The Kent County Council, in co-operation with all Local Authorities in Kent, decided to adapt part of Bow Arrow Hospital, Dartford, for the admission and treatment of Typhus. An additional provision formulated by arrangement with the London County Council was the admission of the first few cases to a London County Council Hospital, subject to such accommodation not being required by the London County Council to meet their own needs.

Water Supplies.

An additional supply (Corporation Water Supply) from Cuxton Wells became available in 1942.

The chemical analyses and bacteriological examinations of both the Chatham and District Water Company and Corporation supply were in accordance with the usual findings.

War-time Conditions.

Obviously war-time conditions are not conducive to the promotion of optimum health. The mental stress of domestic circumstances, the strain of additional effort and the absence of peace-time relaxations and recreations, all operate against the individual and communal state of well being. The deprivation of air through the operation of the 'black-out' and the psychological effect of its resultant gloom are other factors of some import.

These adverse circumstances are fortunately neither constant nor continuous, and whilst there is no evidence of any serious effect on the health of the inhabitants, one would assume after three years of war, that the ~~acc~~umulative result must be deleterious even although latent at present.

Staff.

In conclusion I wish to compliment all the staff on the invaluable assistance and effort which they have given in the department, and on their ready response in meeting many difficulties.

I am also indebted to my colleagues in other departments not only for the supply of information embodied in this report but for their help in many other directions.

To the Chairmen and Members of the Committees directing the work of the department, I desire to express my thanks for their support and consideration throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. O. MURRAY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA (in acres) LAND AND INLAND WATER

Land = 3759 (TOTAL = 4108 acres.
Water = 349 (

POPULATION - Census 1931 = 31,193.

Estimated (middle of 1942) 34,200 R. G.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS (as at 31.12.42)
= 11,467

RATEABLE VALUE (at 31.12.42) .. £276,011

SUM REPRESENTING A PENNY RATE .. £1,057. 12. 6.

TOTAL BIRTHS = 690

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Live Births</u>	Legitimate	658	340	318 (690
	Illegitimate	32	18	14 (
<u>Still Births</u>	Legitimate	23	8	15 (23
	Illegitimate	0	0	0 (

TOTAL DEATHS = 440. Male = 240. Female = 200.
(All causes at all ages).

Death rate per 1,000 persons living = 12.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:- R.G.

Puerperal Sepsis 1
Other maternal causes 1

Total = 2

Natural Increase in Population (Excess Births over Deaths) = 250.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

Total Infant Deaths	44 (R.G.'s figure)
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	63.7
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 (	66.8
Legitimate Live Births (
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 (	0
Illegitimate Births (
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	8

The Registrar-General's Table of Causes of Deaths appears at the end of the Report on page 13.

INFANT MORTALITY AND BIRTH RATE.

Deaths of children under 1 year of age per 1,000 births, and births per 1,000 persons living:-

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Infant Mortality	35.3	50	65.3	49	52.9	48.3	39.1	27.8	40.3	63.7
Birth Rate	12.8	14.6	15.1	15.1	16.4	18.6	18.7	17.4	18.7	20.1
Death Rate	12.4	12.4	11.3	10.5	11.4	11.5	12.4	13.8	13	12.8

The Table on page 9 shows the causes of deaths in children under one year of age at different ages.

CHILD MORTALITY.

Number of deaths of children aged 1 to 5 years during 1939 = 3.
 1940 = 6.
 1941 = 9.
 1942 = 8.

NEO NATAL MORTALITY.

Total deaths = 32. In 1941 the figure was 11.
 Death rate of children under one month of age per 1000 births = 46.37.
 In 1941 the figure was 17.8.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

During the year 1942, Rochester Nursing Association provided 220 patients with a nurse. The number of visits made by the nurses was 6478 and the total number of members at the end of the year was 4315.

Services provided during 1942.

Cases provided with County Midwives by K.C.C.	221
Cases attended by independent Midwives	245
Number of children attended by Watts Charity Nurses in the Home	54
Number of cases in which Home Helps were provided by the Local Authority	50
Number of patients admitted to Canada House (a) Privately (b) By Local Authority.	70 3
Number of occasions on which the services of a Consultant were provided	4
Number of women for whom medical ante-natal and post-natal care were provided	71
Number of pre-school age children referred to Hospital for special treatment	47
Number of expectant and nursing mothers who received dental treatment provided by the Local Authority	20
Number of children of pre-school age who received dental treatment provided by the Local Authority	29
Number of applications for Sterilized Maternity Outfits	174
Number of patients evacuated under the Government Evacuation Scheme	42
Number of patients treated for Scabies (a) Adults (b) Children	132 141

Preventive Inoculation.

During the year 1942, the Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic dealt with the following numbers of children:-

Number of children immunised	1023
Number of children undergoing immunisation at the end of the year	319
Total attendances of all children	3265

In addition to immunisation at the Immunisation Clinic, Schick testing and immunising material are supplied free to general practitioners who desire to immunise their patients, and in this way 67 were immunised as compared with 6 in 1941.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1939.

Total number of rats destroyed during the year	685
" " " mice " " "	773

Tuberculosis.

Thirty five cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified under the Tuberculosis Regulations during the year, and sixteen cases of non-respiratory Tuberculosis. There were twenty deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis and twelve deaths from Non-respiratory Tuberculosis.

The average numbers of notifications and deaths from Respiratory and Non-respiratory Tuberculosis for the preceding five years are as follows:-

	<u>Respiratory Tuberculosis.</u>		<u>Non-respiratory Tuberculosis</u>	
	<u>Notifications.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Notifications</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Average for(preceding (5 years (	29.2	20.8	10	3.4
<u>1942.</u>	35	20	16	12

Venereal Diseases.

The Venereal Diseases Clinic is under the administration of the Kent County Council, and is conducted by Mr. Hamish Nicol, F.R.C.S..

During the year 61 new patients from the District attended the Clinic, out of which number 20 were non-venereal. The total number of attendances was 1378.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The following Table gives details as to Infant Mortality in 1942:-

Net deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Causes of Death	Under 24 hrs.	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks.	Over 1 3 months	Over 3 & under 6 months	Over 6 & under 9 months	Over 9 & under 12 months	Total under 12 months
Immature Birth	9	3	1	0	1	14	0	0	0	0	14
Injury at Birth	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	2
Perasmus, Inanition & Malnutrition	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	3
Congenital Deformity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	0	6
Bronchitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Stro Enteritis	0	0	1	2	2	5	2	2	0	0	9
Other Causes	0	3	1	1	1	6	0	1	0	0	7
All Causes	10	7	4	5	6	30	4	4	2	0	42

Births = 690. Net deaths registered = 44 (R.G.'s figure which includes two outward transfers 9. not included in above.

HEALTH VISITORS ANNUAL REPORT (Curtailed).

The total number of births (corrected for inward and outward transfer) in the City was 690. (Registrar General's figure).

Births in Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

(1) Number in Nursing Homes	..	..	155
(2) Number in Hospitals	..	..	169
Number occurring in Nursing Home in the	(	50 (included in	
City area	(
Number occurring in Hospital in the	(	9 (" "
City area	(

Classification of Visits paid during 1942.

First visit to infants under 1 year	754
Subsequent visits to infants under 1 year	1078
Infectious disease visits	261
Puerperal Pyrexia visits	5
Infants' deaths enquired into	32
Children's deaths enquired into	7
Still-births enquired into	19
Registered Nursing Home visits	2
Infant Life Protection - number of visits	62
Ante-natal visits	114
Post-natal visits	413
Visits to children between 1 & 5 years	2928
Visits of enquiry under the Midwives Act	4
Visits of enquiry regarding Home Helps	0
Visits of enquiry regarding Day Nurseries	308
Special visits	369
Miscellaneous and ineffectual visits	917
Diphtheria Immunisation Visits	413
Children visited over 5 years	80
Neglected children visited	8

Total = 7783

Three hundred and six cases were seen by the Medical Office who referred fifty three of the mothers and children to their private doctors or to St. Bartholomew's Hospital for treatment.

Attendances at Milk Distributing Centres.

	<u>Corn</u> <u>Exchange</u>	<u>Wallace</u> <u>Road</u>	<u>Temple</u> <u>Farm</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Infants under 1 year of age	3514	825	1402	5741
Children between 1 & 5 years of age.	1218	416	725	2359
Ante-natal cases	72	9	15	96
Post-natal cases	299	85	30	414
Miscellaneous	435	42	129	606
Infant Life Protection	20	-	7	27
Nursing Mothers	16	9	0	25
Enquiries re Diphtheria Immunisation	75	-	29	104
Totals =	5649	1386	2337	9372

Number of Clinics attended.

Clinics held by Medical Officer of Health
Other Clinics
Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic

26
253
1

Number of children visited.

Under 1 year of age
One to two years of age
Two to three years of age
Three to Five years of age

454
211
220
491

The Clinics are held twice weekly at the Corn Exchange,
weekly at Temple Farm and fortnightly at Wallace Road.

REPORT ON ST. WILLIAM'S HOSPITAL FOR THE YEAR 1942 (Curtailed).

The following Table shows the number and type of admissions:-

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysip- elas.	Measles	Impetigo	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Whooping Cough	Strepto- coccal infection	Total
Rocheater	45	8	0	3	2+	1	7	1	2	69
hatham	19	6	0	0	1	0	1+++	0	0	27
ther authorities	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Totals =	65	16	0	4	3	1	8	1	2	100

= 1 case + Pneumonia and 1 case + Bronchitis
+ = Admitted for observation.

PORT HEALTH DISTRICT OF ROCHESTER.

Annual Report for 1942 (Curtailed).

No.	Ton- nage.	Number inspec- ted by the M.O.H. P.H.I.		Number reported to be defective.	Number of vessels on which de- fects were remedied.		Total
(Steamers	-	-	5	6	3	3	17
Foreign(Motor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
al Foreign =	-	-	5	6	3	3	17
(Steamers	-	-	-	261	52	51	364
st-(Motor	-	-	-	21	3	3	27
se (Sailing	-	-	-	40	6	6	52
(Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
al Coastwise =	-	-	342	61	60	-	443
al Foreign(=	-	-	5	348	64	63	460
astwise (-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The above figures are for Seaborne Traffic and do not include
r-river Traffic such as barges, lighters, etc..

Rats destroyed during 1942.

	<u>Ships</u>		<u>Shore</u>
Rats destroyed ..	2	..	740
Rats examined (bacteriologically)	2	..	7
Rats examined (macroscopically)	0	..	5
Rats infected with Plague	0	..	0

Hygiene of Crew Space.

<u>Nationality of Vessel.</u>	<u>Number inspected during 1942.</u>	<u>Defects of original construction.</u>	<u>Structural defects through wear & tear.</u>	<u>Dirt, vermin & other conditions prejudicial to health.</u>
British	280	3	26	57
Other Nations	48	0	8	11
Total =	328	3	34	68

Foodstuffs.

Cargoes of flour and grain to the number of 106 were examined and found to be in good condition.

Mosquitoes.

Measures against mosquitoes have been carried out against the species, *Aedes detritus*, on the marshes in Rochester area. Surveys of various static water supplies have been made and treatment recommended where necessary.

Infectious Diseases.

No case of dangerous infectious disease occurred during the year.

Psittacosis Regulation.

Prohibition of landing notices were given in the case of one budgerigar.

Cases of Sickness.

One abscess and one septic arm came under the notice of the Port Medical Officer. Cases suffering from ailments such as colds, catarrh, abdominal disorders and minor injuries were recommended to obtain medical attention where this appeared to be advisable.

Port Fishery Officer.

The above is a war-time appointment, the duties of which are carried out by the Port Health Inspector. Briefly they consist of enquiries as to the bona fide of applicants for permits to fish in the Medway, and the subsequent issue of permits which are called in once a month and sent to the Admiralty for re-enforcement. During the time the official permits are away for this purpose temporary permits are issued by the Port Fishery Officer.

Applications for petrol, timber, stoves, gear, rubber boots etc. are dealt with by the Port Fishery Officer who recommends issue of the requisite permit upon being satisfied as to it being necessary.

Notices from the Admiralty and Ministry of Agriculture concerning regulations, danger notices, etc. also pass through

hands of the Port Fishery Officer who works under the general direction of the Port Fishery Captain.

River Craft.

Table A is concerned with Seaborne Traffic only. There are, however, about 1800 arrivals yearly of small vessels trading between the River Thames and River Medway.

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN ROCHESTER IN 1942.

Civilians only.

All Causes:-

Male = 240 (Total = 440.
Female = 200 (

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1
3. Scarlet Fever	0	1
4. Whooping Cough	1	1
5. Diphtheria	0	0
6. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	8	12
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	6
8. Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
9. Influenza	0	0
10. Measles	0	0
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	0	0
12. Acute inf. Encephalitis	0	1
13. Cancer of buccal cavity & Oesophagus (M) (Uterus (f))	5	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	4
15. Cancer of breast	0	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	24	14
17. Diabetes	1	7
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	17	19
19. Heart disease	56	48
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	7	8
21. Bronchitis	16	9
22. Pneumonia	22	1
23. Other respiratory diseases	1	3
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	7	0
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	5	3
26. Appendicitis	0	1
27. Other digestive diseases	4	5
28. Nephritis	6	5
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	0	1
30. Other maternal causes	0	1
31. Premature birth	9	8
32. Congenital malformations, birth injuries, { infant diseases }	7	4
33. Suicide	0	0
34. Road traffic Accidents	4	3
35. Other violent causes	6	2
36. All other causes	21	20
Totals =	240	200

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Worship & Gentlemen:

I beg to submit my fourth Annual Report on the sanitary inspection of the City.

In the interests of strict economy, the report is an interim one, but all records have been maintained for the compilation of a full report after the termination of the war.

COMPLAINTS.

637 complaints were received from householders and others during the year as compared with 589 in 1941 and 550 in 1940. All received prompt attention and the necessary action was taken to secure the abatement of the nuisances found, in spite of the fact that the Inspectorial staff has been depleted since the outbreak of the war by the calling up to H.M. Forces of two members of the staff.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Repairs and improvements to the total of 908 were effected under the Inspectors' direction and supervision throughout the year, as compared with 1113 during 1941. Fuller details of the various kinds of repairs etc. will be dealt with in the report to be prepared after the war.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

1631 loads were pumped from cesspools in the City as against 2153 loads in 1941.

In addition to the cesspool emptying carried out in the City area, 4 loads were pumped from a cesspool situated in a rural area immediately adjoining the City boundary. Owing to difficulties arising from transport, the emptying of cesspools outside the City area was discontinued in 1940, and all applications for emptying from residences in the rural area are considered individually by the Public Health Committee.

VERMINOUS DWELLINGS.

122 rooms in 59 dwellings were subjected to disinfestation treatment for the destruction of vermin. In all cases the houses were thoroughly sprayed with insecticide followed by intensive sulphur dioxide fumigation.

FOOD INSPECTION.

1352 visits were paid by the Inspectors to various premises associated with the sale and production of food. Of this number 961 were visits to Government Slaughterhouses in the City for the purpose of examining carcasses etc. at the time of slaughter.

The number of carcasses etc. examined during the year was 7770 as against 11,311 in 1941, and the following list of food, which weighed 14 tons, 8 cwt. - qrs. 14 lbs., was found to be diseased or unsound:-

21 carcasses etc. of cows	Generalised Tuberculosis
4 " " " heifers	" "
2 " " " steers	" "
1 carcass etc. of a bull	" "
1 " " " " calf	Fevered and Ill-bled
14 carcasses etc. of sheep and lambs	(12 Dropsy & Emaciation 1 Toxaemia, 1 Decomposition)
13 forequarters of cows	Tuberculosis
1 hindquarter of a cow	"
1 forequarter of a heifer	"
107 bovine heads and tongues	(104 Tuberculosis, 3 Actinomycosis)
139 bovine livers	(29 Tuberculosis, 53 Flukes, 27 Multiple Abscesses, 17 Cavernous Angioma, 8 Cirrhosis, 3 Cystic, 2 Necrosis)
134 bovine lungs	Tuberculosis
3 ox kidneys	Nephritis
29 cows' udders	(24 Putrefaction, 5 Tuberculosis)
15 bovine stomachs, intestines, mesenteries, etc.	Tuberculosis
2 calves' plucks	"
2 calves' livers	Multiple Abscesses
1 calf's lungs	Tuberculosis
3 sheep and lamb plucks	Parasitic
95 sheep and lamb livers	(83 Parasitic, 4 Cirrhosis, 5 Multiple Abscesses, 3 Cystic)
30 sheep and lamb lungs	Parasitic
33 lbs. beef	Severe bruising
76 lbs. beef trimmings	Unsound
6 lbs. mutton	"
36 lbs. bacon	"
30 tins beef (corned beef, meat roll etc.)	"
131 tins pork (luncheon meat, sausage etc.)	"
29 meat pies	"
14 lbs. pork and beef galantine	"
54 lbs. rabbits	"
77 lbs. cheese	"
597 eggs	"
1214 tins of milk	"
41 tins of fish	"
50 fishcakes	"
10 lbs. fish paste	"
63 lbs. filleted fish	"
65 tins of vegetables	"
72 tins of fruit	"
250 lbs. oranges	"
13 lbs. veal and ham stuffing	"
9 lbs. vegetable sausage	"
31 tins soup	"
11 tins jam	"
17 tins ready meals	"
1 Christmas pudding	"
1 tin turkey	"

MILK.

67 visits were paid to the 4 cowkeepers' premises and 17 retail dairies in the City throughout the year for the purpose of routine inspection and taking of milk samples.

There are 95 shopkeepers registered as retailers of milk in bottled bottles, but of this number 46 only are actually selling the commodity owing to the restriction on supplies.

BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS.

Milk.

4 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk and 11 of Accredited Milk were taken from producers' premises in the area and submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination.

The samples of Tuberculin Tested and 6 of the Accredited milk satisfied the prescribed tests under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1936 whilst 5 of the Accredited milks were below the standard. This was due, in the main, to a breakdown in the sterilising plant at one of the producers' premises, and owing to war-time conditions, great difficulty was experienced in obtaining the necessary replacements, and much delay was occasioned in rectifying the trouble in the dairy.

2 samples of milk supplied to the schools were also found, upon bacteriological examination, to be satisfactory.

In addition to the above, samples of mixed milk were taken from the herds for the detection of the presence of Tuberculosis among cattle. In each case the biological test carried out at the County Laboratory proved there to be no evidence of Tuberculosis in the milk submitted.

Water.

82 samples of drinking water and 2 of swimming bath water were submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis during the year. Of this number 16 samples were taken from storage tanks and 6 from shallow wells in the area. The results of the examinations will be found in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

BAKEHOUSES.

30 visits were paid to the bakehouses on the register and the premises proved upon inspection to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are 19 premises on the register of fish fryers, but of this number only 9 were conducting business at the end of 1942.

Periodic inspections proved them to be conducted in a satisfactory manner and in only a few instances was it necessary to draw attention for greater care in the cleansing of equipment etc.

FOOD & DRUG SAMPLING, 1942.

149 samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. His reports are summarised overleaf.

SUMMARY OF FOOD & DRUG SAMPLING, 1942.

<u>Sample.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Genuine.</u>	<u>Adulterated.</u>
Anti-gas ointment	2	2	-
Aspirin Tablets	1	1	-
Baking Powder	2	2	-
Boracic Ointment	2	2	-
Camphorated Oil	3	3	-
Castor Oil	2	2	-
Cheese Powder	1	1	-
Cocoa	2	2	-
Coffee	4	4	-
Custard Powder	1	1	-
Egg Substitute	1	1	-
Fish paste	5	5	-
Ginger (ground)	1	1	-
Glucose D	1	1	-
Margarine	1	1	-
Meat paste	2	2	-
Milk	65	62	3
Milk (tinned)	1	1	-
Milk (dried)	1	1	-
Mustard	2	2	-
Peanuts (ground)	2	-	2
Rice custard pudding powder	1	1	-
Saccharin tablets	3	-	3
Sal Volatilo	3	-	3
Sausage	25	25	-
Seidlitz Powder	2	2	-
Semolina pudding powder	1	1	-
Semolina	1	1	-
Soup powder	3	3	-
Sugar	1	1	-
Tea (infused)	1	1	-
Tea (dry)	1	1	-
Zinc ointment	5	4	1
	<u>149</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>12</u>

With regard to the samples declared by the Analyst to be adulterated, the whole of the facts relating to each sample were reported to the Health Committee and after full consideration, it was decided to institute legal proceedings in connection with one sample only - No. 19 (milk). The particulars relating to the adulterated samples are given in the following table:-

<u>No.</u>	<u>Article.</u>	<u>Defect.</u>	<u>Action Taken.</u>
19	Milk	17.6% deficient in fat	Producer-retailer prosecuted.
25	Sal Volatile	Slightly deficient in ammonia	Informal sample. Letter of caution from Town Clerk to vendor.
47	Ground Peanuts	Contained 0.8% ground flint	Informal sample - follow up sample No. 48
48	Ground Peanuts	Contained 0.77% ground flint	Letters of caution from Town Clerk to vendor and wholesalers.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Article.</u>	<u>Defect.</u>	<u>Action Taken.</u>
62	Milk	1.6% deficient in fat	Letter of caution from Town Clerk to vendor.
67	Full Strength Saccharin Tablets	Declared as half-strength only	Whole of the facts reported to the Rochester Food Executive Officer.
68	Full Strength Saccharin Tablets	Declared as half-strength only	do.
71	Milk	6% deficient in fat	Strong caution from Town Clerk to vendor.
135	Sal Volatile	Deficient in ammonia	Informal sample; letter of caution from Town Clerk to vendor.
138	Zinc Ointment	Excess of zinc oxide	Informal sample; letter of caution from Town Clerk to vendor.
141	Sal Volatile	Deficient in ammonia	Informal sample; letter of caution from Town Clerk to vendor.
145	Full Strength Saccharin Tablets	Declared as half-strength only	Whole of the facts reported to Rochester Food Executive Officer.

In addition to the taking of samples from milk retailers' premises and roundsmen for submission to the Public Analyst, Gerber tests of milk were carried out in the Public Health Department either at the request of dairymen, who are encouraged to report doubtful qualities of milk supplied to them, or in follow-up tests after deficiencies have been proved.

FACTORIES & WORKPLACES.

95 visits were paid by Sanitary Inspectors to factories and workplaces in the City during the year, the number of defects found during the course of visits was 12 and all received attention.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

Periodic visits to the one common lodging house on the register proved that due observance to the Byelaws was being maintained.

DISINFECTION.

119 rooms were disinfected by formaldehyde fumigation after infectious disease. This number includes 39 rooms disinfected after removal or deaths of cases of Tuberculosis.

175 loads of bedding were removed from premises for the purpose of steam disinfection or destruction, as against 14 in 1904.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Primary inspections	460
Caravans inspected	4
Reinspections	607
Drainage surveys and visits to work in progress ...	123
Visits to Factories & Workplaces	95
" " Bakehouses	30
" " Slaughterhouses	961
" " Other premises for food inspection	105
" " Cowsheds and dairies	67
" " Offensive trades	40
" " Stables and mews	21
" for food sampling and testing	168
" to cases of infectious disease (including	
Scabies and Jaundice)	199
" " common lodging house	2
" for water sampling	82
Shops Act inspections	73
Smoke observations	3
Explosives Act visits	5
Petroleum Act visits	17
Visits in connection with Decontamination of food .	14
" " " " " " "	
clothing	37
Visits in connection with Emergency Water Supply ..	10
" " " " Public Shelters	32
Miscellaneous visits	908
Water tests	57
Smoke "	22

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In conclusion I beg to express my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and members of the Committee for their support, and to Dr. Murray and other Departmental Officials for the assistance and co-operation afforded me at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. H. M.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.